

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

KUBOTA, S. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 1207-100

Serial No. 10/645,841

TC/A.U.: 3682

Filed: August 22, 2003

Examiner: Justin Mitchell Krause

For: SLIDING BEARING AND BEARING MECHANISM HAVING  
THE SAME

\* \* \* \* \*

April 14, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

In response to the Election of Species Requirement dated March 17, 2006, Applicants elect the species of Group 4, including Figures 9-13. Claims 1-5, 7-13, 16, 17, 19-21 and 24-26 and 28 are readable on the elected species.


In the event that generic claim 1 is allowable, rejoinder of the restricted claims is respectfully requested, especially as the Office Action has indicated that claim 1 appears to be generic.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Paul T. Bowen  
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100